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FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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VIDELA SAYS FIGHT AGAINST SUBVERSION CONTINUES

PY092338Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 9 Feb 78 FY

[Speech by President Jorge Videla in San Miguel de Tucuman at a ceremony marking the third anniversary of the initiation of the antisubversive Operation Independence--live]

[Excerpts] Today, on the third anniversary of the beginning of Operation Independence, we are rendering just homage to all those who generously sacrificed themselves during this crucial stage to defend the nation's very existence, to enhance the nation's greatness, and to guard the nation's integrity. Operation Independence is a phase of our history which cannot and should not be forgotten. If it is, we run the risk of having our children relive it.

Beginning in 9 February 1975, we tested the capacity of our commands and units to adapt, to confront a type of struggle involving totally different circumstances and means. It would be good to recall that we had almost no experience in this type of struggle.

Events which took place during this period are now part of our history. Today, 3 years after its beginning, victory is ours. Today we can say that subversion's armed organizations have been eliminated, and that Tucuman is definitely on the road to progress. Operation Independence has not ended, but it has now entered a new phase. Only the initial priorities have changed. The center of gravity of our efforts has been relocated to government support through fundamentally civic projects which have been carried out, and which are still underway. This support, in addition to uncounted projects, has allowed us to complete the construction of organized modern facilities, and to supply dignified housing and public services to people who had for many years lived isolated and dispersed on the edge of the mountains.

Tucuman, the nation's garden for many years, focal point for subversion and operations yesterday, is today a symbol of faith and hope. For this victory to be valid, Argentines should never forget what has happened here. We said that Operation Independence has not ended. We reaffirm that the struggle against subversion in the entire country has not ended either.

Even though its military organizations have been virtually eliminated, our adversary will undoubtedly resort to other ways and means to attack our society. Its danger is directly in proportion to the subtlety which it employs. That is why no one is free to feel he is relieved of his position in the struggle. This not only implies decisive action, it also means acceptance of the responsibilities which each Argentine has. Each one should fulfill his role. Then, victory will surely be ours.

Let us achieve the peace we need to work toward the great and happy nation we all hope for. This will require the unity of all Argentines. All our differences have favored, and will continue to favor, our enemies. Let us once and for all convince ourselves that the common good is above sectorial needs, no matter how just these may seem under the circumstances.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN TRADE UNDER SECRETARY--The new foreign trade under secretary, Alberto Grimolid, assumed his duties yesterday without any protocol ceremonies. He was sworn in by Commerce Secretary Alejandro Estrada. [Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 2 Feb 78 p 9 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTRY ADVISOR--Buenos Aires, 3 Feb--Maj Gen Osiris Guillermo Villegas (ret) was appointed ad hoc advisor of the foreign minister effective 15 January 1978, through a ministerial resolution. A similar resolution accepted his resignation to the position of plenipotentiary ambassador, effective on the same date. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2044 GMT 3 Feb 78 PY]

AMBASSADOR APPROVED--The Pakistani Government has approved the appointment of Raul Castro Desmaras Luzuriaga as Argentine ambassador to that country. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Feb 78 PY]

INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENT--Buenos Aires, 3 Feb--The National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA] reported today that their manager for legal matters, Jorge Martinez Favini, has been appointed president of the fourth meeting of the Permanent Commission on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damages recently held in Vienna. The subject matter has been the subject of many studies by Argentine specialists since the international conference which originated the 1963 convention held in Vienna. The fact that Martinez Favini was unanimously chosen for the position is a recognition of the task carried out by Argentina on the subject. [Text] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1450 GMT 3 Feb 78 PY]

BANK PRESIDENT RESIGNS--During a press conference, Carlos Conrado Helbling--National Development Bank president--announced that he had submitted his resignation, which was accepted by Economy Minister Alfredo Martinez de Hoz. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 27 Jan 78 PY]

NAVY FLEET COMMANDERS--In ceremonies held in the Puerto Belgrano Naval Base,which were presided over by Navy Com Humberto Barbuzzi, Capt Walter Joze Colombo and Capt Jose Suppicich today assumed their respective duties as commander of the fleet's 1st and 2d Destroyer Division. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0240 GMT 3 Feb 78 PY]

NAVAL OPERATIONS DEPUTY CHIEF--Rear Adm Jose Nestor Estevez assumed duty today as deputy chief of naval operations. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0635 GMT 9 Feb 78 PY]

NEW RADIO STATION ANTENNA--Posadas, 8 Feb--LT-4 Radiodifusora Misiones will inaugurate a new antenna on 10 February 1978 at 2000. The antenna is 333 meters above ground level and is considered the tallest in South America. It will allow this 25-kw border station to reach the entire Argentine northeast, Paraguay, Brazil and Uruguay. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0208 GMT 9 Feb 78 PY]

GOVERNMENT PURCHASES TV STATION--The executive branch has approved the purchase of Proartel S.A. and Rio de la Plata S.A., owners of television Channel 13. The purchase price is $11.2 million and the contract was signed on 18 October 1977. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 9 Feb 78 PY]

BOLIVIA MAY ACQUIRE FRENCH MISSILE

FY100055Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 9 Feb 78 FY

[Text] A French firm held a technical demonstration of aerial missiles this morning in the La Paz plateau region--in Viacha, La Paz Department, to be exact. This report was given to the press by the army commander, Gen Alfonso Villalpando, shortly before the cabinet meeting. General Villalpando witnessed the demonstration along with chiefs, officers, noncommissioned officers, and troops stationed in La Paz.

This modern and sophisticated weapon may be acquired by Bolivia. According to General Villalpando, this depends on economic resources.

Let us repeat the report. For the first time in our country, a French firm has held aerial missile demonstrations. Obviously, when any businessmen holds a demonstration of one of his products, he is interested in selling his merchandise. The French surface-to-surface, air-to-surface, and surface-to-air missiles may be bought by the Bolivian Armed Forces. According to General Villalpando, everything depends on the economic factor. General Villalpando was the one who announced this possibility, which we are sure will have greater repercussions abroad than in our own country.

GOVERNMENT TO REPLY TO MIR CLAIMS ON DEBT

FY100121Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 9 Feb 78 FY

[Text] Before entering government house to take part in a cabinet meeting with his colleagues, Gen Juan Lechin Suarez, the planning and coordination minister, made a statement to the press concerning the economic document published by the Revolutionary Movement of the Left [MIR] in a La Paz morning newspaper.

According to General Lechin, the document, which refers to the country's foreign debt, is unfounded since some of its figures and estimates are erroneous. However, General Lechin said the government would disclose the real foreign debt situation next week so the people would be informed about the problem which, in his opinion, should not alarm anyone. He said he considered the MIR publication to be an example of the freedoms conceded within the framework of democracy, where opinions should be exchanged and a constant dialog maintained to clear up issues.

According to the MIR publication, which was published by the national press media, the political organization conducted an exhaustive investigation, study and analysis of the problem concerning the country's foreign debt. The MIR estimates that the foreign debt is about $2.35 million [as heard].

MNRI CALLS NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR FEBRUARY

FY090248Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 8 Feb 78 FY

[Text] The National Revolutionary Movement of the Left, MNRI, which is headed by former President Hernan Siles Zuazo, will hold a national conference this month during which the party will define its political position for the coming elections.

According to a communique signed by party leaders Abel Ayorga (Argandona) and Luis Pelaez (Gurrioja), the conference will decide when to hold the MNRI's national convention. The communique states that this party is engaged in forming a wide democratic leftist front, which will include all the forces which fought against the government to put an end to 6 years of repressive violence, confusion and social injustice. According to the document, the plan includes the participation of city workers, miners and peasants and the progressive sectors of the armed forces aimed at guaranteeing a peaceful transition to a modern society capable of promoting, freely and democratically, sustained economic and social growth at the service of the country.

With this objective in mind, the MNRI has made an agreement with the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR, aimed at continuing the revolution of 9 April 1952.

In conclusion, the document makes clear that until the national conference, any reports of agreement with leaders and political organizations which took a different position than the MNRI in 1971 have no basis.

OIL OUTPUT DOWN; FUTURE RISE EXPECTED

FY090129Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2157 GMT 8 Feb 78 FY

[Excerpts] La Paz, 8 Feb 78--Bolivia's oil production decreased from 45,000 to 33,000 barrels daily during the last 12 months, according to an official report disclosed here today.

The state oil company said this situation would be corrected within 4 months when production will near 46,000 barrels after new oil deposits discovered in the eastern part of the country, near the border with Paraguay, begin operation.

The state oil company concluded its report by saying that there are problems in financing additional prospecting projects, precisely because of low fuel prices in the domestic market.

BRIEFS

MINERAL DEPOSITS DISCOVERED--The Bolivian Geological Service [GEOBOL] has confirmed the discovery of valuable mineral deposits such as tin, iron, chromium, platinum, niobium and beryllium in Santa Cruz Province. GEOBOL Director Alvaro Fernandez and the director of the Precambico project Gerardo Jordan have reported that the results of the research and exploitation in the area were presented to the National Economic and Planning Council, and that the project has been termed "of national interest. Magnetite deposits with up to 70 percent iron concentration have been discovered in the Rincon del Tigre area. Rocks containing niobium, lanthanum, beryllium, strontium and phosphorus have been found near Cerro Manomo. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 6 Feb 78 p 7 FY]

MINERAL EXPORTS--According to the latest statistical bulletin from the Mining and Metallurgy Ministry disclosed today, the United States maintains its status as the principle buyer of Bolivian minerals. During 1977, the United States bought $200.13 million worth of minerals. During the same period, European countries made purchases totalling $187.679 million; Latin American countries bought $35 million in minerals; and Asian countries totalled $13.962 million in purchases. [La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 9 Feb 78 FY]

GEISEL FRG VISIT CONFIRMED FOR 4-10 MARCH

PY092358Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 9 Feb 78 p 2 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Col Toledo Camargo, press adviser of the presidency of the republic, stated yesterday that President Geisel's visit to Kronberg, the native town of his ancestors, "is not confirmed." Toledo Camargo also reported that "General Figueiredo is not included in the presidential entourage." Camargo confirmed that Geisel will go on his trip from 4 to 10 March.

Camargo also noted that no definite schedule will be established before 18 February, when the advance party of presidential advisers, who will go to Bonn on the 11th to discuss the details of Geisel's visit with FRG officials, are back in Brasilia.

Toledo Camargo made this statement in reply to a reporter's question regarding press reports released yesterday speculating on the possibility of Geisel's visit being reduced from 5 to 3 days, thus eliminating his visit to Kronberg.

Toledo Camargo said: The visit to Kronberg is not confirmed. Although I believe it is more likely that the president will not go to Kronberg, this decision will only be made after the return of the advanced party.

The Planalto spokesman also reported that, in principle, the president will depart on Saturday, 4 March, arrive in Bonn on the next morning and rest on Sunday. Geisel will hold official activities beginning Monday and on Thursday afternoon, 9 March, he will fly back to Brasilia, where he will arrive on Friday.

The advance party, which will depart on 11 February, will be headed by Cdr Claus Dieter Eichler, deputy naval chief of the Military Household and coordinator of the president's trip to the FRG.

Itamaraty spokesman Luiz Felipe Lampreia yesterday termed "baseless" a report carried by a Rio de Janeiro newspaper that President Geisel's trip to the FRG will be reduced from 5 to 3 days.

Lampreia noted that the original schedule remains unchanged. Geisel will depart from Brazil on 4 March and will return on Friday, 10 March.

Gerhard Kutzner, the FRG Embassy attache, stated yesterday that the length of President Geisel's visit to the FRG depends exclusively on the Brazilian Government. He regarded as "speculation" any report on the reduction of the length of the trip. Kutzner also added that although no new agreements will be signed between the two countries, it is not proper to say that President Geisel's visit will not yield major results, because there will be a joint communique "which will be very important."

ENVOY TO FRANCE SAYS GISCARD TO VISIT IN MAY

PY081747Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1612 GMT 8 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Paris, 8 Feb--Brazilian Ambassador to Paris Antonio Delfim Neto reported here today that French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing will make an official visit to Brazil in May.

Neto, who is expected to resign his post at any time, made this statement at the end of a farewell visit he made to the French president. He said: "After discussing several aspects of the international situation, President Giscard confirmed his decision to make an official visit to my country in May."

Before saying farewell to President Giscard, Ambassador Neto said goodby to Prime Minister Raymond Barre. On both occasions, Neto voiced his appreciation to the French Government for the cooperation granted during his diplomatic mission here, during which the most important event was President Ernesto Geisel's official visit to Paris in May 1976.

Ambassador Neto, after holding the post of economy minister in his country, presented his credentials to Giscard on 20 February 1975. Neto, who will leave for his country on Friday, is one of the precandidates of the government party ARENA for Sao Paulo State governor.

MAGALHAES PINTO DENIES PLANS TO WITHDRAW

PY091445Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 9 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Senator Magalhaes Pinto has denied that he intends to withdraw his candidacy for president, adding that he definitely will go to the ARENA convention. He said firmly: I am a fighting man and will continue fighting. I will not frustrate the Brazilian people with my retreat.

BRIEFS

URUGUAYAN CITIZENS EXPELLED--Based on Justice Ministry reports, President Geisel signed decrees expelling the following Uruguayan citizens from Brazilian territory: (Jose Ernesto Paz y Escobar), (Retropio Alarcon Fagia), and (Carlos Mateo Alvarez). [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 9 Feb 78 PY]

NEW DRILLING PLATFORM--A new semisubmergible platform will arrive in Brazil on 22 February. This will be a (master pioneer) platform, made in Denmark, which can drill wells up to 6,400 meters deep. This platform will be used in the Campos Basin, which will thus have 11 drilling rigs out of the 25 platforms now in operation on the entire Brazilian continental shelf. [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 9 Feb 78 PY]

ARGENTINE PROTEST REJECTED; CLAIMS CALLED 'UNPRECEDENTED'

PY091848Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 9 Feb 78 PY

[Excerpts] The Chilean Government has categorically rejected an Argentine Government protest note. The note, which was delivered by Foreign Minister Patricio Carvajal to Argentine Ambassador Mario Hugo Miatello, is addressed to Argentine Foreign Minister Oscar Montes. In it, Chile reiterates that the southern islands which are claimed by Argentina is a territory under Chilean sovereignty in accordance with the 1881 border agreement.

The Argentine protest note to the appointment of coastal wardens says that these appointments are an inadmissible administrative involvement in a territory in which Argentina has exclusive sovereignty rights.

In his answer to Foreign Minister Montes, Chilean Foreign Minister Caravajal said that the Chilean Government cannot accept the alluded protest or complaints.

Regarding the Picton, Nueva and Lennox Islands, Admiral Carvajal reminded his Argentine colleague that the court decision declared these islands to be strictly Chilean. Moreover, he noted that the 9-month deadline, during which time Argentina could ask for an appeal of revision before this court, has lapsed. Since this request has not been submitted to the court, the possibility of obtaining a revision of this decision has expired.

Regarding the situation brought about by the nullification of the decision, it is interesting to note the opinion of Gen Gustavo Leigh, Chilean junta member and air force commander.

[Leigh--begin recording] As for the situation with Argentina, I really believe that we must be calm [words indistinct] since the attitude shown by our neighbor is unprecedented. [end recording]

The Chilean note adds that the Argentine protest lacks any foundation on the 1881 treaty and it is unauthorized by an arbitration decision which the two governments solemnly decided to enforce and which Chile, upholding the rights of people, has fully (?enforced).

Foreign Minister Carvajal also noted that the protests and claims included in Foreign Minister Montes' letter also include the Chilean islands of Ornox, (?Petry), (?Brasneck), (?Churchill), and Wollaston. These islands, along with Lennox, Picton and Nueva were assigned to Chile by the 1881 agreement. Furthermore, since these islands are located between the Beagle Channel and Cape Horn, they are specifically covered by Article No 3 of the 1881 agreement. Consequently, these protests and claims are improper according to the law.

The foreign minister added that he regrets that these unjustified Argentine claims have created a new controversy regarding the southern border, noting: This compels me to reiterate the need for both our governments to reach a compromise which will enable us to appear before the International Court to solve this issue.

[Paris AFP in Spanish at 1716 GMT on 9 February reports that "Chile summoned Argentina today to appear before the International Court of Justice in The Hague to reach a final decision of the border disputes. The summons is contained in an official note from the Chilean Foreign Ministry which categorically rejects the Argentine protest last Friday against the appointment of coastal wardens in the southern region of the continent."]

Leigh: Argentine Rejection 'Unprecedented'

PY092117Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1940 GMT 9 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 9 Feb--Gen Gustavo Leigh, Chilean Air Force commander and member of the government junta, said here that the Argentine decision to unilaterally nullify the British arbitration decision on the Beagle Channel is "unprecedented." The high ranking official indicated at a press conference that "Chile must remain calm because it has the law on its side" regarding the complex question.

This was the first public reaction by a member of the Chilean military junta to the 25 January Argentine decision rejecting the arbitration as damaging to its territorial interests. General Leigh then said: "It is inconceivable that an incident of this kind could occur at this stage of the 20th century, when nations must keep their word, where international ethics must exist, where treaties and agreements must be respected since they involve the honor of nations." He also believes that Argentina will reconsider the mistake made "when it violated the basic principle of international law, which today permits understanding among peoples." He explained that "Chile must remain apart from maneuvers, exercises and press sensationalist campaigns and exercise the rights it has." With regard to any possible worsening of the situation following the Argentine reaffirmation of its sovereignty in the Beagle area, he said that the situation is still static. He said: "We hope that the deadlock produced by Argentina's unilateral declaration will be broken." With regard to the negotiations between the two nations, he reiterated that Chile has agreed to discuss any matter which is not related to issues which have already been decided by the arbitration. He emphasized that "the negotiations being carried out and which have been carried out with the Argentine military delegation are related to the demarkation of maritime borders, the seabed and continental shelf, but they have nothing to do with the British Crown decision." In conclusion, he said that the military maneuvers being carried out by the Argentine armed forces near the Chilean border are not a danger to the country.

MORE REPORTS OF ARMED FORCES MANEUVERS IN SOUTH

No Concern Over Maneuvers

PY081622Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1445 GMT 8 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Punta Arenas, Chile, 8 Feb--The chief of the Third Naval Zone in this city has not paid much attention to target practice maneuvers carried out recently by Argentine ships near the Beagle Channel.

Rear Adm Luis de los Rios Echeverria pointed out that "these maneuvers are observed by the Chilean Navy and we do the same in our jurisdictional waters."

These maneuvers were carried out by the torpedo boats Intrepida and Indomita last week when the Chilean barge Elicura was sailing through the zone transporting a group of reporters.

Claim of Airspace Violation

PY091143Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0352 GMT 9 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 8 Feb--The newspaper EL MERCURIO reported in its Thursday edition that Argentine combat planes had violated Chilean airspace last Sunday.

In a report from special correspondents sent to the disputed area, it was also alleged that two Argentine torpedo boats carried out maneuvers in the Beagle Channel on Monday, firing 17 artillery rounds at targets located on Malvina Island, in Argentine territory [territorio trasandino].

The special correspondents also emphasized in their reports that the Argentine Ushuaia Naval Base had cut the telephone communications with the Chilean Puerto Williams Naval Base, located in the region of conflict.

EL MERCURIO emphasized the fact that although these events are aimed at creating a climate of tension among the civilian population, the Chilean people remain calm and serene.

It also reported that Argentine radio stations in Rio Gallegos have made continuous calls to reservists to join the armed forces in view of this border conflict.

PINOCHET CHANGES SCHEDULE OF SOUTHERN TOUR

PY082331Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 8 Feb 78 PY

[Text] The presidential press secretary released President Augusto Pinochet's change of schedule in his tour of the southern part of the country.

The report indicates that the president left for Coihaique and Chile Chico this morning, where he will remain until 1630 and then return to Coihaique. The president, who was accompanied by his wife, ministers and advisors, was welcomed by Chile Chico's Mayor, (Gaston Trujillo). The entire community attended the welcoming ceremony. The chief of state will visit the (Esteban Marquez) [word indistinct] Project, the local hospital and the sports center.

The president will return to Coihaique in the afternoon. On Thursday at 1700, the president will leave for Balmaceda and Punta Arenas. In Coihaique President Pinochet will be bid farewell by Mayor (Juan Alonso Puada) and local officials. The chief of state will remain in Magallanes, Punta Arenas and Puerto Natales until Monday, 13 February 1978.

LOPEZ MICHELSEN REJECTS U.S. CONGRESS DRUG CHARGES

PA092005Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen today emphatically declared that no foreign group has the right to issue Colombia a good-conduct certificate. The president's statement, at a ceremony in which he received a card accrediting him as a professional journalist, was in reference to a U.S. Congress antinarcotics committee report containing serious charges against Colombia on illegal drug trafficking.

In accepting the journalist card, Lopez Michelsen said that he did not plan to become a director of a magazine or a newspaper because his administration needs no defense. He said he was proud to declare that his government had never censured the press during its 4-year term, adding that he had simply limited himself to performing his duty. The chief of state today again proclaimed the government's impartial stand in the electoral debate, and said that the 26 February elections as well as the 4 June elections will not only be impartial, but immaculate.

PRESIDENT ASKED TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH NICARAGUA

PA100201Y Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 2330 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--Five organizations of progressive Latin American priests have asked President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen's government to break diplomatic and commercial relations with dictator Anastasio Somoza. A communique which was released asks national and international public opinion to repudiate Somoza's disgraceful and anachronistic form of government. The communique asks the Colombian Government to break relations with the Nicaraguan regime because to continue maintaining them is to betray the Nicaraguan people.

The (?rebel) priests recall that in view of this intolerable situation, the Episcopal Conference plenum has [word indistinct] raised its voice to denounce the Nicaraguan regime's irregularities. The priests' communique concludes that neither as men nor as Christians can we remain indifferent to the suffering and heroism of our brethren in Nicaragua.

LOPEZ MICHELSEN PROPOSES SOCIALIZATION OF NEWS MEDIA

PA100022Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2043 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 9 Feb (AFP)--Colombian President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen proposed here today the socialization of the news media. He made the proposal during the celebration of journalists day in Colombia. Lopez, who on this occasion was given an identification card as a professional journalist, said that he is in favor of newsmen being in control of the news media.

The president noted the achievements of his government, whose term expires in August, and pointed out the government's efforts toward solving the energy crisis by means of oil exploration and the exploitation of uranium.

The president also noted that unemployment has been reduced in Colombia. He promised a completely impartial government and full guarantees during the congressional elections to be held on the 26th of this month and during the elections to choose his successor in June.

GOVERNMENT FREEZES GOVERNMENT PAYROLL

PA091928Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The central government today urgently froze the government payroll of the nation and asked the governors, intendants and municipal officials to abstain from appointing, transferring, promoting or dismissing personnel effective today, to prevent alleged political partisanship.

The government minister, Alfredo Araujo Grau, today sent a circular to all section chiefs reiterating specific instructions from the chief of state on their obligation to abstain from carrying out or supporting activities which could be interpreted as influencing the voters or showing support to or rejection of any political sector.

Araujo Grau said that only those urgent changes required to preserve public order or maintain necessary services can be made in the composition of the bureaucracy. The government also reminded governors, intendants and municipal officials that those who accept nomination must resign their respective posts or be removed by their superiors. According to the Supreme Court of Justice and the nation's attorney general's office, such acceptance constitutes illegal participation in the political process.

FARC OFFERS SUPPORT TO UNO FOR ELECTIONS

PA081629Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1539 GMT 8 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Bucaramanga, Colombia, 8 Feb (AFP)--A pro-Soviet guerrilla group has offered its support to the ultraleftist Colombian opposition in the 26 February legislative elections, a communique issued here today said. In the communique, the pro-Soviet Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) expresses its economic and military support for the National Opposition Union (UNO). The UNO has chosen Congressman Julio Cesar Pernia as its presidential candidate in the June elections.

Meanwhile, official sources said that army troops today continued in pursuit of the guerrilla group that ambushed and killed nine soldiers and wounded 10 others in northwestern Colombia on 4 February. The pursuit is taking place in the vast mountainous region of the mid-Magdalena River area in central Colombia. The ambush was carried out by the FARC in the forest region of Santander Department.

The 10 soldiers who were wounded in the ambush are out of danger in a hospital in Barrancabermeja.

BRIEFS

EL CORREO CLOSES OPERATIONS--Medellin, 7 Feb (EFE)--The directors of EL CORREO newspaper have announced the closing of operations due to bankruptcy. The paper, founded in 1913, supported Liberal candidate Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala and in its last edition exhorted Liberals to give him massive support. The closing of EL CORREO leaves Medellin with only one paper, the conservative EL COLOMBIANO. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1452 GMT 7 Feb 78 PA]

BUCARAM PROTESTS PERSECUTION, HARASSMENT BY POLICE

PA081613Y Quito Radio Cadena Nacional Ecuatoriana in Spanish 1300 GMT 8 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Asaad Bucaram, leader of the Concentration of Popular Forces [CFP] and that party's presidential candidate, has sent a letter to Galo Plaza Lasso, president of the Referendum Tribunal, on his own and his party's behalf. In the letter he vigorously protests the arbitrary and repressive actions taken against his party by Guayas police intendant Jaime Bernasa and police chief Oswaldo Navarro, who the document describes as partners in persecuting, harassing and imprisoning members of the party. A signed copy of the letter was delivered to the offices of EL COMERCIO newspaper in Guayaquil.

The letter adds that on the day of the referendum, a completely false order was prepared against Bucaram and other CFP leaders. Bucaram also claims that the police disregarded a permit granted by the provincial referendum tribunal to the CFP and other political groups to travel freely in the electoral areas.

On the other hand, the letter says, the intendant--who uses his eyes and ears only to see and hear that which interests him, and only in the manner most advantageous to him--was completely unaware of a campaign to invalidate votes, a campaign which was being carried out on the same day of the referendum.

Bucaram Said To Be Ill

PA091633Y Quito Radio Cadena Nacional Ecuatoriana in Spanish 1300 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Guayaquil--The Guayas general police intendant, Jaime Vernaza Trujillo, today said the leader and presidential candidate of the Concentration of Popular Forces [CFP], Asaad Bucaram, is suffering from ill health. This means he will not be able to serve a sentence imposed on him. What is more, Vernaza added, for humanity's sake he cannot legally sanction someone who was not even able to endure 20 days in the local penitentiary women's ward, where he learned about Bucaram's physical condition.

Vernaza said Bucaram accused him of being mentally unbalanced, and added that it is Bucaram who is crazy, but only when facing a jail term. Otherwise, Vernaza emphasized, his customary statements are no surprise to anyone because they are part of his personality, and I realize that.

PRI ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR DURAN BALLEN PRESIDENCY

PA091540Y Quito Radio Cadena Nacional Ecuatoriana in Spanish 1300 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Quito--The chief of the Ecuadorean Independent Republican Party [Partido Republicano Independiente--PRI], Vicente Levi Castillo, last night announced that the party's executive committee had decided to support Sixto Duran Ballen for the presidency of the republic. Levi Castillo said that in 1970 his party, which has considerable support among the people and peasants, voted for Duran Ballen for mayor and is proud of his achievements in Quito and as an Ecuadorean, for which reasons he believes Duran Ballen will make a great president.

VELASQUISTS TO NOMINATE VELASCO IBARRA FOR PRESIDENT

PA091535Y Quito Radio Cadena Nacional Ecuatoriana in Spanish 1300 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Quito--The authentic Velasquists, those who follow Velasco Ibarra, will meet tomorrow in Guayaquil, according to information released by former director and current coordinator of that group, Carlos Cornejo Orbe.

In statements to EL COMERCIO, Cornejo Orbe said he will personally propose the nomination of former President Jose Maria Velasco Ibarra, thus denying rumors that the organization will back Duran Ballen. Velasquism follows only Velasco Ibarra, he said, adding that those who do not back Velasco, such as Dr Arroyo Robelly, are strangers or traitors to Velasquism. He insisted that the meeting will be held tomorrow, not on the 16th as Arroyo Robelly claims. He said he did not know whom Robelly supports.

The Velasquist convention, Cornejo said, will make important decisions concerning the national political situation and the Velasquists active participation in the coming presidential elections. New director will also be named, Cornejo concluded.

NEW POLITICAL PARTY 'PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACY' CREATED

PA091416Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0446 GMT 9 FEB 78 PA

[Excerpts] Quito, 8 Feb (EFE)--A new progressive political movement was formally created today in Ecuador, with presidential elections that will put an end to 8 years of dictatorial regimes only 6 months away. The movement is called the People's Democracy [Democracia Popular] and, although its name might imply Marxist leanings, it is a merger of Christian Democracy, the Progressive Conservative Party, and an independent group.

At a meeting held this evening in Quito, the leaders of the new political movement announced its charter. Oswaldo Hurtado, president of the Christian Democratic Party, and Julio Cesar Trujillo, leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, said they want to set a practical example of unity and sacrifice. They said that in view of the many complex problems that Ecuador is facing the programs of any single party or simply personal aspirations must yield before the mass movements, supported by ideological bases and programs which meet the people's expectations and which will, in the long run, settle the country's political problems.

The new party, which chose green as its color, was defined as humanist, communitarian, and democratic. The founders said: We aim to make the necessary changes to end the exploitation of man by man, to put an end to all inactive and unproductive wealth, and to organize the economy in the service of mankind, so as to create a new, just, unified, free and humane society. The party's ideological and administrative statutes will be subject to debate and approval during the group's first convention to be held in March.

The new party created today will continue to be a part of the Popular Coalition created in December by the Christian Democracy, the Progressive Conservative Party, the National Democratic Union, and an independent group.

JUDGE ORDERS EVICTION OF HUNGER STRIKERS FROM CHURCHES

PA091637Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1553 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 9 Feb (AFP)--An investigating judge today began proceedings against 54 Peruvian union leaders who are on a hunger strike and ordered their eviction from the churches where they are holding the strike. The strikers, who include a lawyer, are demanding the reemployment of 3,000 to 5,000 workers who were dismissed from their jobs for having participated in a general strike in July.

Judge Wilf Gonzalez Munoz indicted the strikers for a health crime and authorized the state security police to evict them from the churches. He also ordered that the strikers be placed under his jurisdiction for the questioning and that those in weak health be hospitalized.

Seven of the strikers who began their fast on 28 January in the Santo Domingo Convent in Lima were transferred to a hospital 2 days ago but they are continuing their strike. Another five strikers who stopped eating on 4 February are at the Santa Cruz Church in the San Martin de Porres section of Lima, while another eight are at the Jesus Obrero Church in Surquillo, outside Lima. Since 6 February, 33 labor leaders and lawyer Alfonso Silva have been on a hunger strike at the Juan 23d Church in San Martin de Porres.

SOCIALISTS REJECT PARTICIPATION IN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

PA091650Y Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 7 Feb 78 p 4 PA

[Text] "The constituent assembly does not represent the national community because it has been cleverly planned to transfer power to the oligarchy," the Peruvian Socialist Party [PSP] has stated in a communique explaining its reasons for not participating in the constituent assembly.

The PSP communique noted that a constituent assembly should not have any limitations placed on its powers and that no force, expect the constitution, can arrogate the sovereign function of legislating. Therefore, if the goal is a democratic one, the transfer of political power to the people should be carried out through the establishment of a government of national unity to be responsible to a constituent assembly elected by the people through universal, free and direct vote.

The PSP stated that it cannot accept legislative duality, that is, the functioning of a constituent assembly solely to draft a constitution while the de facto government continues to rule through decrees.

CGTP COMMITTEE MEMBERS DISAVOW AGREEMENT WITH MAS

PA081641Y Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 2 Feb 78 p 2 PA

[Text] Three members of the electoral committee of the General Confederation of Workers of Peru [CGTP] have disavowed the actions of CGTP leaders Isidoro Gamarra and Eduardo Castillo, who signed an agreement with the Movement for Socialism (MAS) "without consultation."

Jose Chavez Canales, Luis la Madrid Flores and Claudio Santa Cruz Torres, members of the electoral committee, said that Gamarra and Castillo are also members of the committee, but that "the committee has not met to decide on the agreement. Therefore, they can act on a personal basis but not in the name of the CGTP."

PARTIES PROMISED EQUAL ACCESS TO NEWS MEDIA

PY091455Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Feb 78 PY

[Excerpts] Gen Cesar Vinatea Montenegro, chief of the National Information System [SINADE], has reasserted that the parties which will participate in the elections for choosing a constituent assembly have a guaranteed access to the media under equal conditions and without discrimination. He indicated that the government will observe the regulations for electoral propaganda which have been established by several decrees. The regulations of these decrees will permit the massive participation of the population in the electoral process through every type of social communications media.

Vinatea also announced that the participating parties will be given 180 free programs on state-owned and state-affiliated television channels as of 3 April, and that each program will last (?12) minutes. As of the same date, the parties will be permitted more than 2,000 free programs on state-owned and state-affiliated radio outlets.

The SINADE chief indicated that the free space on radio and television will be divided up by lot within 72 hours of the requests being submitted, which will ensure an equal deal for all participating parties.

On the other hand, the National Electoral Court will hand down its decision today regarding the provisional registration of the National Workers and Peasants Front [Frente Nacional de Trabajadores y Campesinos] and of the Christian Democratic Party on the basis of the documentation submitted to the court by these entities.

The Electoral Court will then study the registration of the Peruvian Democratic Movement [MDP], the American Revolutionary Popular Alliance [APRA] and the Peruvian Communist Party [PCP], to be followed by the Popular Christian Party, the Revolutionary Socialist Party [PSR], the National Union [Union Nacional], the Popular Democratic Union [Union Democratica Popular], the Popular Socialist Action [Accion Popular Socialista], the Peruvian Democratic Reformist Party [Partido Democratico Reformista Peruano] and the Workers, Peasants, Students and Popular Front [Frente Obrero, Campesino, Estudiantil y Popular]. The definite deadline for voter registration is tomorrow, and there will be no more postponements.

USSR GIVEN PERMISSION TO RESEARCH OFF PERUVIAN COAST

PA091743Y Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 5Feb 78 p 8 PA

[Text] A USSR academy of sciences ship, the Dmitry Mendeleev, has been given permission to conduct purely biological research off the Peruvian coast until 10 March. The ship's area of operations will include the area between Chimbote, Callao and Pisco ports.

The order granting this permission appeared yesterday in EL PERUANO.

RESPECT FOR RIGHTS STRESSED AT OAS MEETING

PY100152Y Montevideo Radio Carve Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Uruguay has reasserted at the OAS its traditional and invariable respect and support for the fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual. (Alberto Roca), permanent Uruguayan representative to the OAS, made this statement before the Permanent Council after it ratified the rejection to the Uruguayan request to be the site for the next General Assembly. The Foreign Minstry reported today that (Alberto Roca) also stated that our government has always supported, and is at present supporting, the demands and functioning of the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights. Roca added that the fact that Uruguay recognizes the existence of the commission and its good work does not mean that Uruguay accepts the specific, irregular and biased behaviour of the council regarding Uruguay. Although the Uruguayan delegate considered the position of the countries which abstained from voting or voted against as legitimate, he firmly rejected the reasons expressed by some of the member states.

MILITARY ORDER MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF TAKEOVER

PY100202Y Montevideo Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 9 Feb 78 PY

[Text of Commemoration Order No 7,728 from the Army General Command issued in Montevideo on 9 Feb 78 on the fifth anniversary of the armed forces takeover of the government]

[Text] Five years have passed since the armed forces, triumphant over fratricidal subversion against the fatherland, took on a new commitment of honor on behalf of the Uruguayan people, the armed forces themselves, and history. Communiques 4 and 7 [issued in 1973] marked the beginning and illuminated the broad and clear path that was to be followed. Those communiques were a response to the main concerns which the armed forces knew the people were experiencing.

The difficult task of providing security for development, tranquillity, order and work--which the country lacked--began at that time, followed by economic, political and social guidelines which were issued in San Miguel, Colonia Suiza and Solis. This task is now in the second stage--that of development with security. Once active subversion was under control, the country was organized, sources of labor were assured and teaching was improved, the country began to take off toward the goals of happiness and social well-being--the top objectives of the armed forces.

Throughout these 5 years, the members of the army have gone through hardships and unending days of tension, at the same time facing intrigues which were prepared and are prepared abroad and at home by those who are only pursuing personal ambitions. This was counteracted with courage, self-denial, dedicated spirit, esprit de corps and unity of doctrine.

On this anniversary, traveling the path which is imposed by our mission, we reassert our oath, fully understanding the demands of this process, which will end when the exercise of power is transferred to truly democratic institutions. After this, the armed forces will continue to grant security for development and social well-being--won with blood and sacrifice--a task which the armed forces in no way are willing to abandon.

REPORT ON SETTLING OF PERSIAN GULF OIL PRICE DISPUTE

PA091857Y Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 6 Feb 78 p 1 PA

[Text] The five OPEC ministers--working in a climate of true unity within the new framework of solidarity established at the OPEC meeting in Caraballeda in December--settled the problem that had been pending for some time regarding the price of heavy crudes produced in the Persian Gulf. An agreement was reached, with the participation of Saudi Arabia's Yamani, on a proposal which has been repeatedly brought up by Kuwait.

This information was given to our reporter by the Venezuelan mines and energy minister shortly after having returned to Caracas from a meeting of the five OPEC ministers in Geneva. Minister Hernandez Acosta could not give more details because he still has to make a full report to the president this morning. He seemed to be very optimistic, however, not only because of the results of the ad hoc ministerial meeting--held at the conference level--of the OPEC, but of the results of his talks in France. He said that a truly new era of cooperation has been opened with France regarding oil and mining. There will be an exchange of technical missions.

Regarding the meeting of the five OPEC ministers, including Saudi Arabia's Yamani, Hernandez Acosta said that the problem presented by Kuwait regarding different prices of crude oils from the Persian Gulf has been settled. He stressed that the talks had been held in the climate of unity that is now prevailing in the organization, as prescribed at the Caraballeda meeting. He told our reporter that no other topics had been discussed.

The reporter told Minister Hernandez Acosta that during his absence news dispatches from Vienna had reported on the possibility of an agreement being reached in July to defreeze oil prices.

He said, I understand, I believe there is a favorable climate, however, it is really premature to say what is going to happen at the July meeting. I do not like to predict anything, especially in cases like this.

He was asked: How about world markets?

We are observing world markets very closely. As far as Venezuela is concerned, I believe that there will be a recovery, and that the goal fixed for this year will definitely be met. This recovery will not be attained immediately. However, we will meet our goal in the yearly average.

The minister commented on other aspects of his trip to France.

He repeated that new possibilities have been opened. He said that he will probably give newsmen more details during the week.

MINES MINISTER: OPEC MAY DEFREEZE OIL PRICES

PA091858Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] The Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries will discuss the defreezing of prices next year, Venezuelan Mines and Energy Minister Valentin Hernandez has said. He indicated that at the Persian Gulf meeting an agreement on crude oil was studied which (?was satisfactory).

Regarding the technological agreement with France, the mines minister said the president of the Geological Research Office will come in March to iron out final details of the agreement outlined in Paris.

Hernandez on Oil Prices, OPEC

PA092253Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2105 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 9 Feb (LATIN)--Venezuelan Energy and Mines Minister Valentin Hernandez today denied that OPEC is planning to link the value of its currencies to special drawing rights (SDR) in place of the dollar. In exclusive statements for the newspaper EL NACIONAL, the minister also denied that Venezuela is planning to link its currency, the bolivar, to SDR when setting oil prices and added that no OPEC country will act unilaterally regarding this.

According to Hernandez, since 1975 the OPEC has been planning to link its currencies to SDR. However, he noted that in order to implement this measure a collective action by the producers is required, but that so far no such thing has been discussed.

The minister, who has just returned from a meeting of five OPEC countries held to analyze the problems resulting from the different prices of heavy oil, said that there is confidence in the strengthening of the value of the dollar. He added that this topic was informally discussed at that meeting, which was also attended by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iran and Iraq.

Mines Ministry on Oil Market

PA100311Y Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 7 Feb 78 p 1 PA

[Excerpt] Caracas (INNAC)--A question asked yesterday at the Energy and Mines Ministry regarding the current oil situation and particularly the reason why Venezuelan oil exports have been markedly reduced in recent weeks, that is, since the beginning of the year, elicited the following information on the international oil market's current developments. According to the information supplied by the ministry to our economic editor, the situation could be summed up this way:

1. There is a problem in the market due to a gradual drop in the oil demand. This has resulted in a surplus in the market of 2 million barrels per day. Moreover, the large volumes of crude and refined products stored by the industrialized nations have led to a drop in the volume of their imports.

2. Some of the causes for this problem include the North Sea oil, which is increasingly supplying England and other European countries, and the oil from Alaska, which is supplying part of the U.S. market. Besides, Mexican oil supplies to U.S. markets--though still small--are significant and increasing every day. Other causes include the consolidation of the system of conservation and saving of fuels implemented in the industrialized countries--the United States, Europe and Japan, the three areas of the world that consume the most oil.

3. As a result of this situation, Venezuela has had to maintain its oil production at low levels and most of the Persian Gulf countries have had to reduce theirs. In January, for instance, Kuwait maintained its production levels at 1.3 million barrels per day, which for that country represents a considerable reduction. Saudi Arabia is currently producing less oil than in December 1977, while Iran is now producing less oil than was average in 1976 or 1977.

4. Even though the Energy Ministry hopes that the situation may be adjusted, it is admitted that in Venezuela the drop in production levels and the reduction in the volume of exports may have fiscal effects. It has also been admitted that this recession in the market may extend for a period of less than 2 years. Nonetheless, the Energy and Mines Ministry continues to be optimistic and to hope that Venezuela may be able to adjust to its export situation without any major traumas.

ANTI-CASTROITE ORLANDO BOSCH ON HUNGER STRIKE

PA0922580Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2100 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Excerpts] Caracas, 9 Feb (LATIN)--Defense Minister Gen Fernando Paredes Bello announced today that anti-Castro leader Orlando Bosch, who is on trial for his alleged participation in the attack against a Cuban airplane in which 73 persons died, is on a hunger strike and has been admitted to the military hospital.

The minister did not give details about Bosch's health, but noted that "he was taken to the military hospital so that he could receive adequate treatment."

Bosch has been an inmate at the San Carlos barracks, a military prison in Caracas, while his military trial continues. Although nothing has been reported as to when he initiated the hunger strike to protest his arrest, there are indications that he started it last week.

Minister Paredes told newsmen at the Miraflores Presidential Palace: "If he does not want to eat, we cannot force him."

The daily EL NACIONAL, in reporting Bosch's transfer to the military hospital, noted that he "is suffering serious heart problems due to his weak physical condition resulting from the hunger strike." The paper did not reveal its source of information. The same report adds: "He is being given blood serum."

STUDENTS SEEK DIPLOMATIC BREAK WITH NICARAGUA

PA1004l0Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Ten student organizations formally requested the national government to suspend diplomatic relations with the Anastasio Somoza regime. At approximately 1130 today representatives of student groups picketed the Foreign Ministry. They carried signs referring to the Nicaraguan people's struggle against the Somoza dynasty dictatorship, protesting the brutal repression unleashed by the armed forces in that country and demanding the break of diplomatic relations with the Somoza regime.

The picketing was carried out by leaders of the Center of Law Students, the Federated Association of the National Institute, the Guaycuchos, the New Revolutionary Left, the Revolutionary Students Federation and the Panama University Diplomacy and Psychology Students Associations.

High-ranking Foreign Ministry officials invited the demonstrators to a dialog today at noon. They invited a commission of the student groups to the talks. Juan Manuel Castulovich, foreign policy adviser, and newsman Baltazar Aispurua, adviser to the minister on political and information matters, received a letter to the president of the republic from the students in which they asked him to suspend diplomatic relations with the Nicaraguan regime.

During the dialog the ministry officials related the Foreign Ministry's attitude toward the problem. They said that Panama respects the principle of non-intervention, even more so since Panama has suffered from the violation of this principle during its history. The Nicaraguan domestic situation is a local problem which must be solved by the Nicaraguans in spite of the opinion which each individual Panamanian may have concerning the regime wielding power in that nation.

The Foreign Ministry officials emphasized that the national government is kept informed on the Nicaraguan situation by its diplomatic representative in Managua. The government is therefore aware that there are no refugees in the Panamanian Embassy or in any other embassy in that capital city. In the near future Panama will recall its ambassador in Managua for consultations.

Finally, in referring to charges by the students concerning use of the Canal Zone as a support base for the Somoza regime, the ministry officials reasserted the official attitude of repudiating the use of our territory as a base for aggression against other peoples.

COSTA RICA

SECURITY MINISTER ANNOUNCES MEASURES AGAINST SANDINISTS

PA091942Y San Jose Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Public Security Minister Mario Charpentier Gamboa today reported that drastic measures have begun to be taken against members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] who have violated requests for political asylum. It has been decided that FSLN members Juan Bosco Centeno and Robleto Siles will be sent to Villa Neilly to keep them as far away as possible from the northern border so that they will not endanger the country's neutrality. Both Centeno and Robleto have requested political asylum. However, it has been proven that they have organized movements not in accord with the government's position regarding the Nicaraguan situation.

The drastic measures which the government has had to adopt to stop the activities by the FSLN members in Costa Rica have not been suspended and might even be increased if those individuals continue to endanger the country's neutrality. The concern of the government, particularly the Public Security Ministry, is that those who request asylum in our territory might organize groups to fight against the Somoza regime in Nicaragua. It was indicated that the Costa Rican Government does not endorse either the Somoza regime or the FSLN. However, the FSLN members who take asylum in the country are not fulfilling the provisions covering them, causing unhappiness on the part of the Nicaraguan Government and compromising Costa Rica's position as a neutral and democratic country.

LATIN REPORTS CARAZO HAS 53,000 VOTE MARGIN OVER MONGE

PA091947Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1710 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 9 Feb (LATIN)--President-elect Rodrigo Carazo is leading by 53,000 votes over his closest contender, Luis Alberto Monge of the National Liberation Party [PLN] with only 190 more polls left to be counted unofficially. A new count by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal gives Carazo 403,670 votes and Monge 350,225.

According to Supreme Electoral Tribunal figures, the leftist United People's Party, which emerged as a third political group during the recent elections, now has 21,953 votes. Carazo, of the Unity Party, has obtained 50.49 percent, Monge 43.81 percent and Rodrigo Gutierrez, of United People's Party, 2.75 percent.

EL SALVADOR

MEDIATING COMMITTEE SET UP TO SETTLE CONSTRUCTION STRIKE

PA091958Y El Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1720 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] The president of the republic, Gen Carlos Humberto Romero, has issued a decree creating a mediating committee for construction workers and management to settle their differences. The construction workers strike affects 355 enterprises; it is also affecting families awaiting homes built by the construction firms. One of El Salvador's most pressing problems is the lack of adequate low-cost housing. The strike has increased the price of homes. This has caused the government to step in to stop inflation in the housing industry.

ONLY TWO PARTIES TO PARTICIPATE IN MARCH ELECTIONS

PA091912Y El Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1720 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Only two parties will participate in congressional and municipal elections in March: the government National Conciliation Party [PCN] and the extreme right Salvadoran Popular Party [PPS]. The PPS will participate only partially while the PCN will participate on a nationwide basis. Observers say that the PPS has no possibility of winning any municipal seats. It will participate merely to retain its legal status. This has stirred controversy over its legality with regard to participation in the March elections.

GUATEMALA

FINAL SOLUTION ON BELIZE TO BE NEGOTIATED IN MARCH

PA092135Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2012 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 9 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Foreign Minister Adolfo Molina Orantes announced today that Guatemala and Great Britain will negotiate a final solution to the future status of Belize in March. Molina Orantes resumed his activities at the Foreign Ministry this morning after returning yesterday afternoon from Washington, where he met with British Under Secretary of Foreign Relations Ted Rowlands to discuss possible solutions to the Belize issue.

According to the foreign minister, the situation continues to be difficult both because Guatemala and Great Britain have not been able to agree on their views and because the Belize prime minister does not agree with the flexible position that London has adopted toward Guatemala in the past few weeks. Molina Orantes added that a Guatemalan commission made up of former Foreign Minister Jorge Skinner Klee and Gen Rene Mendoza is currently in London to prove to the British authorities the justness of Guatemala's claims.

"Our struggle for the recovery of Belize is more than 100 years old and is not the result of Guatemala's exceptional domestic political circumstances," he insisted.

The official voiced prudent optimism regarding the possibility of solving the conflict through the bilateral negotiations with Great Britain.

NICARAGUA

POLICE DISPERSE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS DEMONSTRATION

PA091916Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1716 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 9 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Police forces last night dispersed another demonstration at the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua (UNAM) Ruben Dario Auditorium in Managua. No one was arrested. Two police squads firing shots into the air and using tear gas dispersed the students who were burning an effigy of a soldier and shouting anti-government slogans.

The students left the auditorium in an orderly fashion and went home. The police did not take any action to prevent them from leaving.

Since the assassination of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro in mid-January, classes have not been normal because of constant clashes between the police and students. UNAM Vice Rector Julian Corrales disclosed that efforts are being made to obtain the freedom of Professor Vladimir Perez and eight students.

Reports from UNAM's branch in Leon indicate that students and professors there are continuing the strike. Meanwhile, the university's workers union today decided to return to work.

UNAM Rector Mariano Fiallos Oyanguren will hold a meeting with faculty members to discuss if the strike should be lifted.

Rector Fiallos Oyanguren said that efforts are being made to find the way to salvage the semester, which has been constantly interrupted and officially ends in mid-March.

PROTESTS IN MANAGUA DECREASE, BUSINESSES REOPEN

PA091302Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1205 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 8 Feb (LATIN)--The police this evening intensified their patrols of Managua's streets in accordance with Police Chief Col Alesio Gutierrez' warning that "the obstruction of traffic and attacks on property will no longer be tolerated."

The initial effect of this was seen in a considerable decrease in the number of protests by housewives and demonstrations by youths in various neighborhoods of the capital.

Whereas on previous nights the firemen had been kept very busy extinguishing fires set off by Molotov cocktails, last night they only had to extinguish one fire in an empty lot in the Centroamerica neighborhood in southeast Managua. That middle class neighborhood has been a center of protest since the labor-management strike began at the end of January.

The businessmen ended the strike 2 weeks after it began when their economic resources were practically exhausted and without achieving their demand that President Anastasio Somoza resign.

The last businesses which had remained closed, including the La Colonia supermarkets owned by the Mantica family, which is opposed to the government, reopened yesterday.

Police Chief Colonel Gutierrez has warned that those who are found guilty of disrupting order will be given a 180-day noncommutable prison sentence. "They comprise a group that is harming a city of half a million persons. We have to defend society," he told newsmen.

Meanwhile, in the interior of the country where the protests which accompanied the strike were much larger than in Managua, the situation still has not returned to normal, according to the reports published by the opposition newspaper LA PRENSA.

The newspaper reported last night that there was a fire yesterday in the Monterosa sugar mill in Chinandega Department 150 km northwest of Managua. The losses from the fire amounted to close to $700,000.

LA PRENSA also said that several U.S. civilian pilots hired by the government to supply "mercenary" services have arrived in the country. This report was denied by sources of the Press Secretariat of the Nicaraguan presidency.

Situation Returns to Normal

PA100426Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0245 GMT 10 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 9 Feb (LATIN)--The labor sectors that remained on strike even after businesses had been reopened began to return to work today, thus putting an end to the movement that almost paralyzed this country for 2 weeks while the movements leaders unsuccessfully asked President Anastasio Somoza to resign.

Meanwhile, the Managua police reported that last night "there were no important disturbances in the capital city's neighborhood." On previous nights "popular resistance movements" had occurred, which has led to the burning of buses and of several stores and recreational centers.

Today, for the first time since the assassination of opposition journalist Pedro Joaquin Chamorro on 10 January, traffic was completely normal in this capital.

For its part, the Chinandega Fire Department denied a report published by a capital city newspaper that a fire had occurred at the Monterrosa sugar mill, causing losses of 4 million cordobas. This mill is located in Chinandega Department, 150 km northwest of Managua.

Political observers gave great importance to the reopening today of the La Colona supermarkets, the biggest in the country, because they are owned by the Mantica family. One of its members, Felipe Mantica, belongs to the group known as "The 12." In alliance with the Sandinist National Liberation Front's (FSLN) Third Line, this group has been, from abroad, advocating a change in Nicaragua's administration.

Meanwhile, the opposition parties that make up the Democratic Liberation Union have been holding daily meetings to discuss "new struggle strategies within Nicaragua's irreversible process of democratization."

It has been unofficially affirmed that there is an internationally supported commitment by the government to guarantee that the 1981 elections will be totally free and honest and that the presidency will be turned over to the winner, even if he is a member of the opposition.

Managua Radio Report

PA100430Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 10 Feb 78 PA

[Text] The La Colonia supermarket and restaurant chain reopened its doors to the public today, thus joining daily life. These were the only establishments which had remained closed due to the decision of their owners, who have realized that they would continue to lose money daily.

Normality is total in the capital of the republic. Life is proceeding normally and harmoniously.

Western Region Reported Normal

PA100431Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 10 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Leon--The situation is normal throughout the metropolitan city. Stores, industry and all activities are proceeding normally.

The reports that LA PRENSA have been publishing are misrepresentations obviously aimed at causing nervousness among (?Nicaraguans). However, anyone interested in verifying the situation in the western region can come to this city. He will find that it is normal as usual. It has been observed that gas stations are operating. During the period of the partial strike, fuel became scarce to a certain extent. However, the situation has returned to normal.

(?Cotton processing) plants have been operating for several days, providing work for their thousands of employees. It is estimated that some 12,000 workers are carrying out their work normally.

Activities in Leon, as in the entire western region, are normal. Activities are normal in Chinandega, Jutigalpa and Corinto. The Nicaraguan people know that only productive work can give impetus to the fatherland's progress toward the goals fixed by the Liberal government.

DEPUTY DEMANDS ABROGATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY LAW

PA100133Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2012 GMT 9 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 9 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Opposition Deputy Julio Molina has told congress that the National Emergency Law the Nicaraguan Government is now enforcing "is decidedly unconstitutional."

Upon demanding the law's abrogation, the deputy of the minority Conservative bloc said that it was approved by the National Constituent Assembly only to give protection and assistance to the victims of the 1972 earthquake.

He said that, in his opinion, the law "is now being applied to control a strictly political situation and to put restraints on journalism."

Molina's motion to abrogate the law was declared "inadmissible" by Cornelio Hueck, president of the Chamber of Deputies. Hueck said that "when a piece of legislation is considered unconstitutional, a writ of relief must be filed with the Supreme Court."

RADIO STATION PAYS DEBT, RESUMES BROADCASTING

PA100439Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 10 Feb 78 PA

[Text] The owners of the Mi Preferida Radio Enterprise yesterday paid their debt to the National Light and Power Enterprise [ENALUF]. Their power was immediately restored and they were on the air again at 1500.

ENALUF spokesmen said that power is cut off to delinquent clients who owe several thousand (?cordobas).

RADIO NOTES ETHIOPIAN APPEAL TO SOMALI TROOPS

FL092045Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1925 GMT 9 Feb 78 FL

[Text] Ethiopia's National Revolutionary Operational Command has issued an appeal to the Somali soldiers who invaded its territory. The appeal urges them to lay down their weapons and simultaneously stresses that there are no differences or enmity between the peoples of Somalia and Ethiopia. The appeal states that the international imperialist forces and Mogadiscio's expansionist circles are responsible for the current conflict, which is aimed at frustrating the Ethiopian revolution.

The document addressed to the Somali workers elsewhere stresses that Ethiopia is conducting a defensive war not directed at Somalia's popular masses, the objective of which is to stop the aggression. In another part, the document states: Our objective is peace and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states. It adds that Ethiopia will continue to struggle until it finally attains those goals.

COMMENTATOR EXAMINES CURRENT SITUATION IN NICARAGUA

FL090245Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 9 Feb 78 FL

[Carlos Mora Herman commentary]

[Text] The situation in Nicaragua continues to be the hottest topic in current Latin American political events. Even though observers agree that the Somoza family dictatorship's remaining days in power are few, it is difficult at this time to predict just how many days are left. The United States has brought a number of pressures and maneuvers into play in attempting to find a democratic-bourgeois opening that would lessen the strength of the more revolutionary forces and guarantee the protection of imperialism's interests. Washington's assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, Terence Todman, said in Costa Rica on 30 January that the CIA had nothing to do with the murder of journalist Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, a traditional opposition member against the Somoza family.

Todman said something else: He affirmed that the policy of nonintervention in domestic affairs of other countries does not permit the United States to support or deny support to a regime because of internal differences it might be confronting. Undoubtedly, Todman has a good sense of humor or his memory fails him; there is no other way to explain the cynicism of such a statement. Suffice to recall such cases as Augusto Cesar Sandino in Nicaragua itself; the armed interventions in the Dominican Republic; the cases of Puerto Rico and Panama; the events in Chile and the downright meddling in our country during the 50 years of pseudorepublic.

Yesterday, the Yankee ambassador to Managua, capital of Nicaragua, declared that the North American military aid to the Somoza regime had not been suspended. He added that if there are North Americans participating in military operations in Nicaragua, they are doing so on their own and not as members of the Yankee army. In persistent versions provided by Nicaraguan sources, it is charged that Yankee military advisers are directing the operations of the National Guard against the popular demonstrations taking place throughout the country.

Last 6 February, North American State Department Spokesman Hodding Carter asked the Nicaraguan Government and the opposition groups to seek peaceful solutions and denied that the United States is intervening there or that it has suggested to Somoza that he should resign. In Nicaragua, the United States is applying the James Carter policy prepared by the ideologists of the Trilateral Commission, which says that others play with their deck of cards while the United States appears to maintain a state of neutrality.

This policy was applied in the Middle East and from all appearances it was unsuccessful due to Mr as-Sadat's stumbles and due to using Somalia in the African Horn.

In Nicaragua, the number of politicians willing to play the deck of cards of the imperialist master is more than enough. This is no problem for the North American government. Its greatest concern is that the Nicaraguan situation could become uncontrollable. It cannot be pleasing to them that the Group of 12, composed of personalities of Nicaragua's economic, political and cultural sectors, today appealed to the citizenry to support the struggle of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, stating that the unity of all sectors seeking the democratization of the country has almost attained the objective of putting an end to the Somoza dictatorship.

The Washington administration does not want the Sandinist front to participate in any kind of democratic-bourgeois solution to the Nicaraguan situation, something which is very difficult given the prestige of the Sandinist front members among the Nicaraguan people as a result of their confrontations against Somoza's repressive forces. The general strike today began its third week--17 days--and it appears to be weakening because of the attitude of some bourgeois sectors, which have opened some businesses and factories.

The municipal elections conducted last Sunday by Somoza were a total failure because they were boycotted by the people. The Somoza dictatorship announced it had achieved an electoral victory which was not there, inasmuch as 95 percent of the voters abstained from going to the polling stations, according to the opposition. The truth of the matter is that the Somoza plan is near death. The founder of the dynasty, Anastasio Somoza Garcia, created what is known as the three p's: cash [peso] for the friends; beatings [palo] for the indifferent, and lead [plomo] for the enemies. Based on that principle, first the old Somoza, then Luis Somoza and now the present Anastasio Somoza Debayle have maintained a corrupt and repressive dictatorship in the country of Ruben Dario and Augusto Cesar Sandino for over 40 years.

It is inconvenient for the United States to have such a dictatorship continue in power despite the fact it is the creation of its support and aid. It is inconvenient for the Criollo bourgeoisie as well. Times have changed, and Somoza does not fit into the bourgeois democratic picture with which imperialism wants to check the revolutionary boom and guarantee the survival of the transnationals. Imperialism is loyal to its best traditions. It got rid of Trujillo when he got in the way, and now Somoza is bothering it. It does not fit the new image, the new mask donned by Carter, decorated by the defense of another's human rights without paying much attention to his own. That is why, sooner or later, Somoza's remaining days in Nicaragua are few.

GARCIA PELAEZ MEETS WITH HUNGARIAN PARTY DELEGATION

FL091134Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Feb 78 FL

[Text] PCC Central Committee Secretariat member Raul Garcia Pelaez has received the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party [MSZMP] delegation that is visiting our country as part of the planned exchange program established between the two parties. The Hungarian party delegation is headed by Jozsef Nagy, MSZMP Central Committee member and Baranya County first secretary.

PINEIRO LOSADA MEETS WITH CHILEAN SOCIALIST YOUTH LEADER

FL091211Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Feb 78 FL

[Text] Manuel Pineiro Losada, member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of the party's America Department, has met with Alejandro Montesinos, secretary general of the Revolutionary Radical Youth, member of the Chilean Radical Party National Directorate and president of the International Union of Young Socialists.

The upcoming universal youth forum celebration to be held in our country and the Latin American political situation were discussed at the cordial meeting.

CULTURE VICE MINISTER ARRIVES IN BUDAPEST ON VISIT

FL100138Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Feb 78 FL

[Text] Cuban Culture First Vice Minister Quintin Pino Machado today arrived in Budapest. During his stay in Hungary, Pino Machado will hold talks [with government officials] to learn about the work of leading cultural institutions.

OFFICIAL GAZETTE CARRIES DECREE ON PENALTIES FOR CRIMES

FL091245Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 9 Feb 78 FL

[Text] The GACETA OFICIAL [OFFICIAL GAZETTE] yesterday published Decree-Law No 13, which modifies the Social Defense Code. This decree increases the penalties for the crimes of theft, robbery, burglary, illegal gambling and drug trafficking. Drug trafficking along with its manufacture, transportation and hidden possession without permission is punishable by imprisonment of 3-8 years and can be increased to 15-20 years. Robbery with violence or threats is punishable with 4-10 years, and can be between 10-30 years or the death penalty if these crimes are committed in a home or other similar situations. And in the case of illegal gambling, those participating in lotteries, raffles, betting or other types of illicit activities can be punished with imprisonment from 3-9 months, or a fine of up to 270 installments, or both.

Further Details on Decree

FL091354Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Feb 78 FL

[Excerpt] The new decree-law issued by the Council of State punishes with imprisonment of up to 9 months for people who for their own benefit hide, change or acquire goods obtained through a crime, even though they do not participate in it. It also establishes punishment for those people who are aware that a crime has been committed and help the criminal to secure the property, its service or sale. Another criminal activity covered deals with any type of burglary. In these cases, imprisonment of up to 12 years is imposed if the deed is committed with the participation of or use of minors under 16 years old. The new decree-law states that when the crime of theft is committed by an individual illegally dressed in an armed forces uniform of our country, the punishment imposed can be from 10-30 years of imprisonment or death. The same punishment will be imposed when the criminal committing the theft does so by abusing his position as a public official, militaryman, policeman or police agent. The new decree-law also establishes punishments of up to 30 years imprisonment or death in the cases of persons guilty of robbery with violence against the victims, while the criminal is pretending to be a public official. These same punishments will be applied if a crime is committed by one or more persons acting as members of an organized group or gang. The antisocial forms of conduct described in the new decree refer to the crime of theft with violence or threats of violence. The decree-law states that whoever removes property from a household using violence or intimidation on the victims will be liable to a punishment of up to 30 years or death. The same penalty will be imposed if the criminals commit theft in a public transportation vehicle. Thirty years imprisonment or death is imposed if the crime of theft with violence causes the death or serious injuries to a citizen.

JAMAICA

MINISTER OF SECURITY: 'MAD DOGS' WILL BE DESTROYED

FL081520Y Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English 5 Feb 78 p 1 FL

[Text] Senator the Hon. Dudley Thompson, minister of national security, said in the Senate on Friday that the "mad dogs in the society will be destroyed".

"Peace belongs to everybody, not only those who can buy it. Peace and security is from the day of birth, the property of every individual of this country," Senator Thompson said.

The minister was responding to tributes paid to him by Senators Winston Spaulding and Dr. Winston Davidson on his appointment as the new minister of national security.

Senator Spaulding said that the new minister possessed the strength and independence of character which were some of the attributes needed for the task. He added that certain events were taking place in the country that would sharply test the qualities he would bring to the ministry.

Pledging opposition support, he said that he would require the understanding of the entire nation because crime was undoubtedly the number one problem in Jamaica now.

Dr. Davidson said that the general public had recognised that as a minister of foreign affairs and minister of mining and natural resources Senator Thompson was a performer.

"He has brought to this important ministry a breath of fresh air," and perhaps it was not co-incidental that shortly after his appointment "we have peace in the West".

Replying, Senator Thompson said he was pleased by the support voice by his colleagues of the opposition because crime knew no party and the assassins' bullets knew no party.

"These people who have made themselves mad dogs in the society will kill anybody," he said, adding that he welcomed the truce which was a relief to the people.

He said: "We must keep the momentum for peace going." Anybody that would stop it, he said, could not mean good for the nation.

"We are at a time in history where we have a bi-partisan approach to some of our problems and this speaks very well for the country".

On matters of crime, there was one line--those who support law and order--and the mad dogs in the society would be destroyed, he said.

SENATOR-MINISTER THOMPSON LEAVES FOR ALGERIA

FL081510Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 6 Feb 78 p 13 FL

[Excerpt] Senator Dudley Thompson left Jamaica on Friday for Algeria. Although he is now minister of national security, Mr. Thompson's visit is in connection with bauxite agreements with Algeria. Algeria has an agreement to purchase Jamaican alumina, but there is no contract.

PRIME MINISTER MANLEY LEAVES ON EUROPEAN TOUR

FL091430Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 7 Feb 78 p 1 FL

[Text] Prime Minister Michael Manley departed without ceremony yesterday afternoon from the Norman Manley International Airport on his way to Europe, where he will visit West Germany, Britain and Hungary.

Mr. Manley, who arrived at the airport a few minutes before the Air Jamaica flight was due to take off at 2.15 p.m., bade goodbye to the small party of diplomats, defence force, police and Ministry of Foreign Affairs personnel, who were there to see him off.

He boarded the aircraft along with four members of his staff who accompanied him on the trip. They were Permanent Secretary, Mr. Gordon Wells; Private Secretary, Mrs. Carmen Gauntlett; Mr. Barry Ford,and Special Adviser, Mr. O.K. Melhado.

Mr. Manley, who was due to fly from Kingston to Miami, where he would change to a London-bound aircraft, is expected to be joined by Foreign Affairs Minister P.J. Patterson in London.

In Germany, he will visit Hamburg, where he is scheduled to meet with West German Chancellor Mr. Helmut Schmidt, attend a meeting of socialist international and hold informal discussions with former German Chancellor Mr. Willy Brandt.

Mr. Manley is also due to have talks with the prime minister of Norway, Mr. Odvar Nordli, while in Germany.

Back to UK

Prime Minister Manley will return to London for discussions with British Prime Minister Mr. James Callaghan.

From there, he goes to Budapest, Hungary for an official visit to that country from February 13 to 15. He will have talks with Hungarian Premier Gyorgy Lazar and other leaders in that country.

The prime minister will be discussing economic and political matters of international significance, including the question of the new international economic order and the part which may be played by the European bloc towards the achievement of this.

Before leaving yesterday, Mr. Manley toured the 'peace belt' in the western part of the corporate area, where rival political factions have called a truce and are working to effect a lasting peace.

At the airport to see the prime minister off were the British high commissioner, Mr. John Drinkall; the German ambassador, Dr. Klaus Timmerman; Major-General Rudolph Green, chief of staff, JDF; police commissioner, Mr. Desmond Campbell and Mr. Donald Davidson, deputy chief of protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

UK URGED TO REJECT CESSION OF BELIZEAN TERRITORY

FL081515Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 4 Feb 78 p 3 FL

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 1 (CANA)--The Guyana Government has called on Britain to reject categorically any possibility of ceding to Guatemala part of Belizean territory as a price the people must pay for the colony's independence. A statement released last night recorded the Guyana Government's concern at reports indicating that such a possibility is being considered. The government said that the Belizean people have an inalienable right to independence and territorial integrity, and there can be no arrangements regarding that right without the full support of the colony's government and people. Limitation of that right will be an affront to the international community which backs Belize's independence with its borders intact. It will also introduce a new principle which, if imposed without the consent of the government and people of Belize, can have serious implications for the security of other states in the region.

The Guyana statement came in the wake of a Barbados charge that the United States appears to be supporting land cession as a means of resolving the Belize independence issue. Barbados Foreign Minister Henry Forde told parliament that efforts by the island to get the United States to use its influence in favour of Belizean independence without giving up any of its territory have not met with enthusiasm.

Belize faces a threat of invasion from nearby Guatemala if independence is granted from Britain without settlement of a territorial dispute between the two countries.

Premier George Price has said that he might have to take the matter directly to the Belizean people.

CATHOLIC STANDARD CALLS FOR COALITION GOVERNMENT

FL081530Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 4 Feb 78 p 9 FL

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 3 (CANA)--The CATHOLIC STANDARD newspaper has thrown its weight behind calls for a political coalition in Guyana to solve the country's pressing economic problems. The calls were first made last August by the opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP) which urged the formation of a national patriotic front, to be followed after elections due later this year by a national front government. That proposal was rejected by the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) then in its general conference.

More recently, the call for a getting-together of political parties was echoed on radio by general secretary of the Trades Union Congress (TUC), Joseph Pollydore. The standard reproduced the text of Mr. Pollydore's broadcast, given in his private capacity in the radio analysis, and said it supported the suggestion. For there to be a change in emphasis and for development to take place mainly through local resources, "a conscious and concerted effort by all our people is essential", the Standard said in its current weekend issue. "No influx of development capital, from whatever source it may come, can bring about any real improvement in the condition of our people unless we unite and work together for our own salvation. There is no other way," the newspaper said.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

SOARES, SENGHOR, TO VISIT, SUPERVISE ELECTIONS

FL071402Y Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 7 Feb 78 FL

[Text] The Dominican Revolutionary Party--PRD--secretary general has announced that the president of Senegal and the Portuguese prime minister will arive in Santo Domingo next March. According to Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, President Leopold-Sedar Senghor and Prime Minister Mario Soares will head an international socialist mission which will supervise the electoral process which will culminate on 16 May. The visit was scheduled for this month but the difficulties Mario Soares faced with his government forced him to delay the mission until March.

Dr Pena Gomez said that the international socialist mission which will visit the Dominican Republic will also supervise the elections to be held in Guatemala. The PRD secretary general and two other leaders of that party will leave today for Germany to participate in a meeting of the International Socialist Bureau. Pena Gomez said that the meeting will deal with topics of great importance to social democratic parties, which include the PRD among others.

PARAGUAY

GOVERNMENT DENOUNCES FOREIGN TIES OF PDC

PY011818Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 31 Jan 78 p 28 PY

[Excerpts] Clotildo Jimenez Benitez, attorney general of the state, has asked the Supreme Court of Justice to reject the appeal for annulment filed by Jose Kirskovich as representative of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], who has appealed against the Central Electoral Board resolution of 19 January, 1971, rejecting the listing of the PDC [as a legal political party] on the basis of Decree-Law No 204/59 and Law No 600/60. Kirskovich stated that the resolution was unconstitutional.

The request from the representative of the Interior Ministry says:

"Mr President, the latest events, which are well-known to the public, have shown us the extent of the international connections of the PDC. We have been able to verify the open participation of institutions and persons linked with the Paraguayan PDC, and the threads could also be found of strong direction from abroad and of a connection which has never existed in other parties now recognized in this country.

"Mr President, while refusing the listing of the PDC because it does not meet the conditions stipulated in Law No 600/60, that is, a membership of 10,000 persons, the government attorney's office requests that a final verdict be pronounced as soon as possible, rejecting the appeal of unconstitutionality and confirming resolution No 12 of the Central Electoral Board, since it is based on the constitution and the law."

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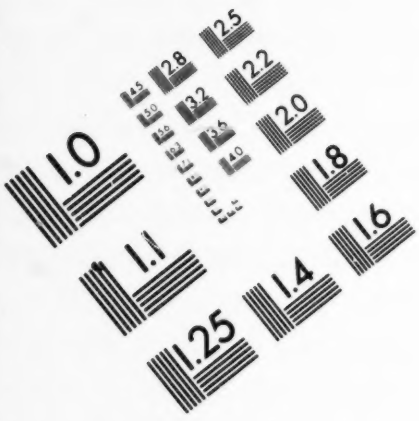

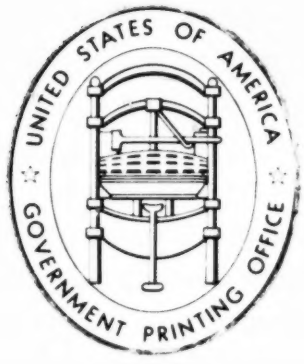

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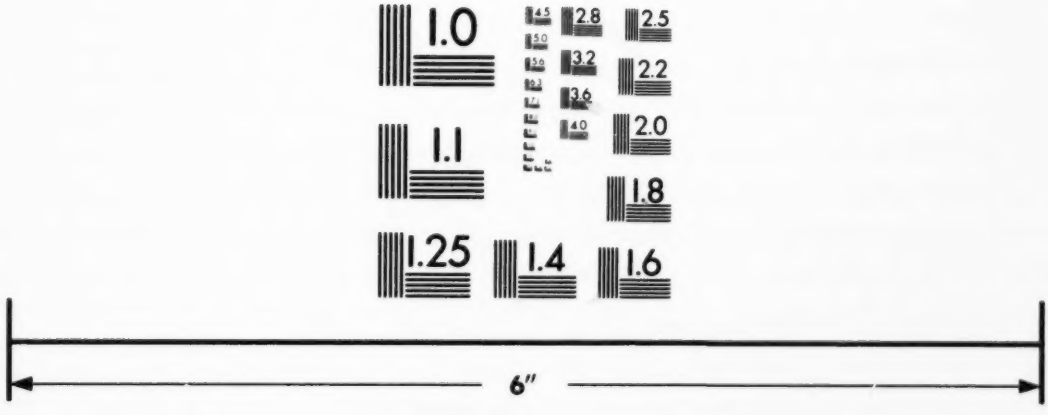

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